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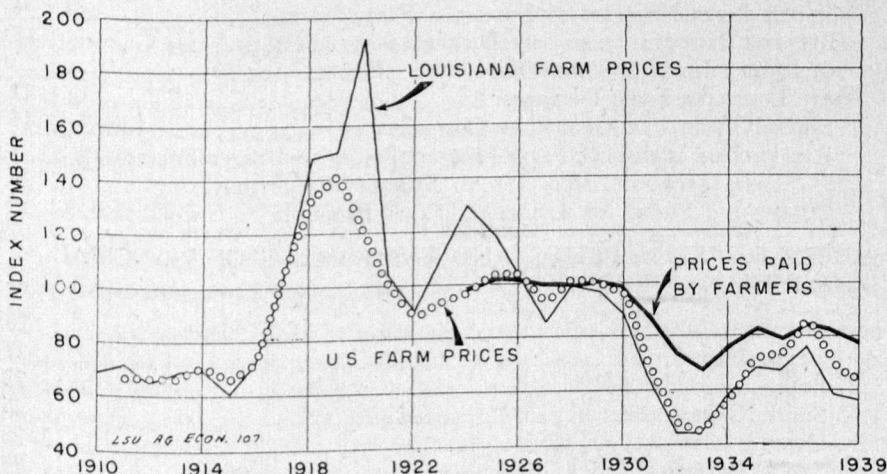
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PRICES AND PRODUCTION OF LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCTS, 1910-1939

By
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LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES, UNITED STATES FARM PRODUCT
PRICES, AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, 1910 - 1939
(1924-29 = 100)

Louisiana farm commodity prices followed the general trends in United States farm commodity prices throughout the 30-year period, but fluctuated more violently. Thus Louisiana farmers cannot expect prices for their products to be much out of line with prices received by farmers in other states. United States prices paid by farmers for commodities used in production and consumption varied, in general, in the same direction as prices received but moved more slowly and less drastically.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
AND
AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATIONS
C. T. DOWELL, Director

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SOURCE OF DATA

All price data included in the tables and charts that follow were obtained from published data of the Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture, and from recently revised unpublished data from the same source. All analysis work and interpretations were conducted by the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station.

LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES

Changes in prices received by producers is an important factor causing changes in production, both in acreage and in intensity of cultivation. Current prices are too often used as a guide in planning production for the following year, with the result that serious fluctuations occur. A better method of planning would be based on the probable price six months or a year in advance. If a crop or an animal could be produced in a day, the current price and cost would be the logical basis on which to plan, but agricultural products require a long period from planting or breeding to maturity, during which time prices may change materially. Thus Louisiana producers should have a statistical background on which to plan future operations.

Prices of 19 Louisiana Farm Products

Prices received by producers for the 19 most important farm products produced in Louisiana are shown in Table 1. These prices are on a crop year basis, beginning in August and ending the following July, and represent the simple average of the 12 monthly prices in each year as reported by Louisiana price correspondents to the United States Department of Agriculture. The crop year rather than the calendar year basis was used as it represents more nearly the way farmers consider their returns—by crops rather than by the month sold. With the exception of strawberries, these prices cover the 30-year period beginning August, 1909, and ending July, 1939. Prices for strawberries were not available until after 1918.

Since the 1909-10 crop year, the prices received for the various Louisiana farm products have fluctuated widely, some more than others. The price of cotton varied from 36.5 cents per pound in 1919-20 to 5.5 cents in 1931-32, or was only about one-seventh as high in 1931-32 as in 1919-20. The price of beef cattle varied from \$8.03 per hundredweight in 1919-20 to \$3.20 in 1933-34, or a decline of about 60 per cent from the 1919-20 level. Although wide variations in livestock prices occurred, in general livestock prices were more stable than prices of crops during the 30-year period. Year to year variations were much less violent for livestock than for crops.

Simple Index Numbers of Louisiana Farm Prices

Comparisons of the relative price changes for different commodities are sometimes difficult to make from the actual prices when one commodity is quoted in cents per pound, another in cents per bushel, and still another in dollars per ton. Probably the most common method of simplifying such comparisons is the use of simple index numbers which show percentage changes from a base period considered as 100. The index number of the price of any commodity is

simply the percentage that the price of that commodity is of the average price during the base period. If the price of cotton was 12 cents per pound during the base period, an increase to 18 cents several years later would be expressed as an index of 150, or a 50 per cent increase.

The base period used for the price series of the 19 most important Louisiana farm products was the 5-year period beginning in August, 1924, and ending in July, 1929. Prices during these years were rather high but relatively stable. This period rather than the conventional 1909-14 base was used because price information for some of the important Louisiana farm products was not available for the pre-war period.

Simple index numbers of prices of Louisiana farm products from 1910 to 1939 are shown in Table 2. The 19 farm products included are cotton, cottonseed, corn, rice, hay, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, strawberries, sugar cane, butter, butterfat, whole milk, chickens, eggs, beef cattle, veal calves, lambs, hogs, and wool. These products make up about 95 per cent of the average cash income received by farmers for Louisiana farm products.

A decline in the index numbers of cotton prices from 99 in the 1928-29 crop year to 31 in 1931-32 indicates how the income of the cotton grower changed during the depression. Prices for most of the other crops showed similar drastic decreases. In general, prices of livestock and livestock products declined less from 1929 to 1933 than did crop prices, although wool declined from an index of 103 in 1928-29 to 30 in 1931-32. From 1932 to 1937, prices for most products increased somewhat but still remained below the 1924-29 base period and the 1909-14 level. Since 1936-37, the gradual upward trend has stopped and many farm product prices have declined. Louisiana farm product prices which have declined most in 1937-38 and 1938-39 from the 1936-37 levels include corn, cotton, Irish potatoes, rice, sweet potatoes, sugar cane, and wool. The prices of beef cattle, veal calves, chickens, and strawberries have remained relatively stable since 1936-37 and their 1938-39 levels are more favorable than are those for most of the other commodities.

Relative Importance of the Different Products in Farm Income

The percentage of the cash farm income in Louisiana derived from each enterprise during the 10-year period 1926-35 is shown in Table 3. For the 10-year period the total cash income to Louisiana farmers averaged \$107,072,600 per year. Of this total income, receipts from crops made up 82.6 per cent, receipts from livestock and livestock products 13.7 per cent, and receipts from benefit payments 3.7 per cent. As benefit payments under the Agricultural Adjustment Administration program were available in only the last three years of the period, the proportion of the income from benefit payments in this period is not representative of conditions in 1939. In 1938, benefit payments to Louisiana farmers made up about 15 per cent of the total cash income.

Cotton was by far the most important source of income for Louisiana, as cotton lint sales made up 37.1 per cent of total receipts and cottonseed 4.9 per cent, or a total of 42 per cent of all cash receipts during the 1926-35 period. Income from rice was second in importance, making up 12.2 per cent of the total. Sugar cane sales amounted to 8.6 per cent and strawberries 5.1 per cent on the average for the 10 years. These four cash crops made up more than two-thirds of the average cash income.

TABLE 1. LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES
August, 1909 to July, 1939

YEAR	BEEF CATTLE (cwt.)	BUT- TER (lb.)	BUT- TER- FAT (lb.)	CHIC- KENS (lb.)	CORN (bu.)	COTTON (lb.)	COTTON- SEED (ton)	EGGS (doz.)	HAY (ton)	Hogs (cwt.)
	<i>Dol.</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Dol.</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Dol.</i>	<i>Dol.</i>
1909-10	4.05	26	27	12.5	75	13.5	25.72	20.4	11.01	6.58
1910-11	3.82	25	24	13.2	64	14.0	24.26	19.1	11.25	6.08
1911-12	3.80	27	27	13.2	77	10.3	18.58	18.8	13.01	5.49
1912-13	4.25	28	27	13.2	76	11.6	20.10	19.2	12.18	5.84
1913-14	5.02	28	26	13.9	82	12.0	19.10	21.1	12.53	6.44
1914-15	5.32	28	27	13.3	89	8.0	18.49	19.0	12.34	6.33
1915-16	5.26	29	26	13.0	75	11.1	32.66	19.2	11.60	6.02
1916-17	6.05	32	32	15.2	114	17.8	50.50	24.5	12.78	8.43
1917-18	7.50	39	38	17.8	167	27.5	65.32	31.7	17.60	12.93
1918-19	7.81	47	50	22.0	173	28.1	62.54	35.8	21.84	13.67
1919-20	8.03	49	56	26.5	179	36.5	66.98	41.8	22.57	13.36
1920-21	6.50	46	46	24.4	107	15.3	24.81	35.2	16.74	9.83
1921-22	4.54	38	38	19.6	76	15.8	28.00	26.0	13.09	7.09
1922-23	4.20	38	41	21.0	95	24.0	34.64	28.5	14.13	7.04
1923-24	4.62	44	41	22.3	109	28.2	40.96	30.2	14.65	7.06
1924-25	4.82	44	39	22.8	125	22.6	33.51	31.1	18.49	8.39
1925-26	4.58	44	38	22.4	104	17.8	28.37	32.0	17.80	9.02
1926-27	4.92	44	40	23.6	91	13.0	22.28	28.7	14.76	9.22
1927-28	6.53	44	42	22.8	101	19.0	35.27	29.3	13.69	8.26
1928-29	7.53	42	41	23.5	100	17.8	34.50	29.4	13.04	8.06
1929-30	6.78	42	38	22.2	96	15.2	30.00	30.2	12.71	8.00
1930-31	4.96	36	28	17.7	90	9.0	20.37	21.3	11.75	6.90
1931-32	3.94	26	20	14.1	47	5.5	9.17	15.7	7.99	4.88
1932-33	3.31	22	15	11.1	45	6.9	10.20	15.9	7.29	3.78
1933-34	3.20	23	17	11.4	64	10.4	15.66	16.4	7.76	3.75
1934-35	3.93	27	23	13.7	91	12.2	35.25	21.0	9.82	5.00
1935-36	4.45	29	24	16.2	73	11.2	33.00	21.8	9.21	6.28
1936-37	4.78	30	29	15.6	99	12.6	35.42	22.8	10.54	6.64
1937-38	4.90	28	26	15.9	68	8.3	20.17	19.9	9.94	6.39
1938-39	4.92	27	21	15.2	56	8.3	22.12	19.2	9.13	5.67

TABLE 1. LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES—(continued)

August, 1909 to July, 1939

YEAR	IRISH POTATOES (bu.)	LAMBS. (cwt.)	MILK (cwt.)	RICE (bu.)	STRAW- BERRIES (24-pt. crt.)	SUGAR CANE (ton)	SWEET POTATOES (bu.)	VEAL CALVES (cwt.)	WOOL (lb.)
	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Dol.</i>	<i>Dol.</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Dol.</i>	<i>Dol.</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Dol.</i>	<i>Cents</i>
1909-10	90	4.72	2.23	77	—	3.83	66	4.81	23
1910-11	85	4.98	2.28	66	—	3.69	72	4.67	17
1911-12	108	5.08	2.31	87	—	4.29	75	4.90	15
1912-13	93	4.95	2.26	89	—	3.73	76	4.78	15
1913-14	97	5.78	2.32	84	—	3.13	74	5.76	14
1914-15	105	6.59	2.45	94	—	3.75	70	6.25	15
1915-16	104	7.34	2.44	84	—	4.55	62	6.18	18
1916-17	208	7.97	2.70	115	—	5.29	80	7.72	24
1917-18	172	9.27	3.31	198	—	7.10	114	8.90	41
1918-19	149	9.96	4.20	189	2.88	7.28	155	8.52	42
1919-20	256	9.25	4.79	262	3.12	14.00	173	9.25	34
1920-21	195	7.59	4.26	103	3.35	5.76	124	7.32	12
1921-22	181	6.06	3.25	97	3.25	3.63	87	5.41	13
1922-23	164	5.95	3.07	100	2.15	5.83	90	5.02	18
1923-24	146	6.67	3.16	115	3.00	7.09	129	5.48	29
1924-25	151	7.61	2.74	139	3.25	5.58	205	5.84	37
1925-26	233	7.28	2.78	145	3.00	4.05	153	6.12	32
1926-27	176	7.52	2.75	110	3.48	4.92	112	6.40	29
1927-28	142	8.28	2.70	92	2.75	4.61	99	8.45	31
1928-29	125	9.51	2.77	94	3.15	3.86	105	9.81	33
1929-30	159	8.20	2.65	102	2.35	3.77	117	9.49	29
1930-31	115	7.04	2.33	77	2.70	3.38	102	6.85	18
1931-32	79	4.96	1.69	52	2.20	3.29	58	5.01	10
1932-33	72	3.92	1.34	46	1.35	3.06	49	4.13	11
1933-34	98	4.05	1.62	77	1.45	3.29	68	3.95	20
1934-35	87	4.37	1.95	83	1.52	2.33	76	4.84	20
1935-36	97	5.80	2.00	78	1.88	3.18	62	5.58	22
1936-37	120	5.39	2.25	92	2.00	3.71	92	5.83	28
1937-38	78	5.56	2.23	66	1.75	3.12	72	6.09	26
1938-39	87	5.32	2.04	64	1.95	2.65	67	6.22	21

TABLE 2. SIMPLE INDEX NUMBERS OF LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES

August, 1909 to July, 1939
(August, 1924 - July, 1929 = 100)

YEAR	BEEF CATTLE	BUTTER	BUTTER- FAT	CHIC- KENS	CORN	COTTON	COTTON- SEED	EGGS	HAY	Hogs
1909-10	71	59	66	54	72	75	84	70	71	77
1910-11	68	58	59	57	61	78	79	64	72	71
1911-12	67	62	67	58	73	57	60	64	84	64
1912-13	75	64	68	57	73	64	65	65	78	68
1913-14	88	64	66	60	78	67	62	71	81	75
1914-15	94	65	67	58	85	44	60	63	80	74
1915-16	93	66	66	57	72	62	106	65	75	70
1916-17	106	74	80	66	109	99	164	84	82	98
1917-18	132	89	93	78	160	154	212	107	113	151
1918-19	138	108	125	96	166	156	204	122	140	159
1919-20	139	113	139	115	171	204	218	142	145	156
1920-21	115	105	116	106	103	83	81	113	108	114
1921-22	80	86	94	85	72	88	91	86	84	83
1922-23	74	88	101	92	91	134	113	96	91	82
1923-24	82	101	101	97	105	157	133	100	94	82
1924-25	85	100	96	99	120	126	109	103	119	98
1925-26	81	100	94	97	100	98	92	106	114	105
1926-27	87	100	100	103	87	72	72	94	95	107
1927-28	115	101	105	99	97	105	115	98	88	96
1928-29	133	97	102	102	96	99	112	99	84	94
1929-30	120	97	95	97	92	85	98	100	82	93
1930-31	87	82	71	77	86	50	66	71	76	80
1931-32	70	61	49	61	45	31	30	51	51	57
1932-33	59	50	37	48	43	38	33	49	47	44
1933-34	56	53	42	49	62	58	50	55	50	44
1934-35	69	63	58	60	87	68	115	72	63	58
1935-36	78	66	60	71	70	62	108	73	59	73
1936-37	84	69	71	68	95	70	115	76	68	77
1937-38	87	65	66	69	65	46	65	66	64	74
1938-39	87	61	52	66	53	46	72	64	59	66

TABLE 2. SIMPLE INDEX NUMBERS OF LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES—(continued)

August, 1909 to July, 1939
(August, 1924 - July, 1929 = 100)

YEAR	IRISH POTATOES	LAMBS	MILK	RICE	STRAW- BERRIES	SUGAR CANE	SWEET POTATOES	VEAL CALVES	WOOL	COMPOSITE INDEX
1909-10	54	59	81	66	—	83	50	66	71	69
1910-11	52	62	83	56	—	80	54	64	52	72
1911-12	66	63	84	75	—	93	56	67	47	65
1912-13	56	62	82	77	—	81	57	65	45	69
1913-14	59	72	84	72	—	68	55	79	44	70
1914-15	64	82	89	81	—	82	52	86	47	61
1915-16	63	92	89	72	—	99	46	84	54	72
1916-17	126	99	98	99	—	115	59	105	76	102
1917-18	103	116	120	171	—	154	85	122	126	148
1918-19	89	124	153	163	98	158	115	117	130	150
1919-20	155	115	174	225	106	304	128	126	103	192
1920-21	119	95	155	89	114	125	92	100	38	104
1921-22	109	76	118	84	110	79	65	74	39	90
1922-23	99	74	112	86	73	127	66	69	57	110
1923-24	89	83	115	99	102	154	96	75	88	129
1924-25	93	95	100	119	110	121	151	80	113	119
1925-26	139	90	101	125	102	88	114	83	100	104
1926-27	107	94	100	94	118	107	83	88	89	86
1927-28	86	103	98	80	93	100	74	115	95	99
1928-29	76	119	101	81	107	84	79	134	103	97
1929-30	96	102	96	88	80	82	87	130	88	89
1930-31	69	88	85	66	92	73	77	94	56	65
1931-32	47	62	61	45	75	72	44	69	30	45
1932-33	44	49	51	40	46	67	37	57	32	44
1933-34	59	51	59	66	49	72	51	54	63	58
1934-35	52	54	71	72	52	51	57	66	61	68
1935-36	59	72	73	68	64	69	47	77	68	67
1936-37	71	67	82	79	68	81	69	80	85	76
1937-38	47	70	81	57	59	68	54	83	79	58
1938-39	52	66	74	55	67	58	50	85	63	56

Sales of truck crops accounted for most of the other crop receipts. Livestock receipts were mostly from the sales of milk and butter and receipts from beef cattle and calves.

Cotton production is still the most important Louisiana farm enterprise but has been somewhat replaced in recent years by other enterprises. For the 5-year period 1926-30, receipts from cotton and cottonseed made up 46 per cent of the total cash receipts and in the following five years, only 35 per cent, indicating a significant decrease in the importance of cotton as a source of cash income. This relative decrease in cotton receipts was accompanied by a larger proportion of receipts from sugar cane, from sales of milk and butter, and from sales of beef cattle, calves, and hogs.

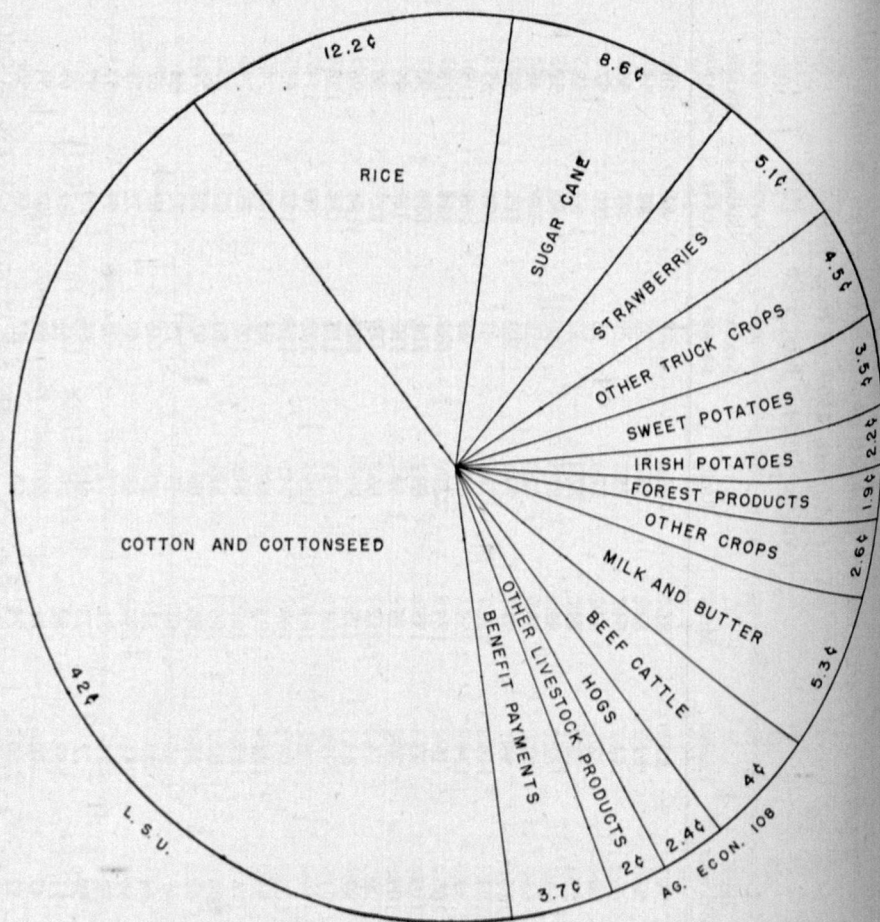


FIG. 1.—CASH INCOME FROM LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCTS, 1926-1935

Of the average dollar received for Louisiana farm products during the 10-year period 1926-35, 42 cents was from the sales of cotton and cottonseed, 12.2 cents from rice, 8.6 cents from sugar cane, 5.1 cents from strawberries, and 14.7 cents from other crops, mostly truck crops. Livestock and livestock products made up 13.7 cents of the average dollar and benefit payments, 3.7 cents.

Composite Index of Prices Received by Farmers for 19 Louisiana Farm Products

The index numbers of individual commodity prices shown in Table 2 indicate the price changes of individual products. To obtain a general picture of how prices have fluctuated for the state as a whole, a composite index number of 19 of the leading farm products was calculated. To obtain a picture of current fluctuations as they occur in comparison to past results, this composite index representing the general level of prices received by Louisiana farmers was computed on a monthly rather than an annual basis. The index numbers, by months, of the composite index representing the average of all Louisiana farm product prices from August, 1909, to December, 1938, are shown in Table 5.

The 19 farm commodities included in the composite index represent about 95 per cent of the cash income received by Louisiana farmers, exclusive of government payments; price information for some of the minor truck crops and fruits was not available and could not be included in the general index. The individu-

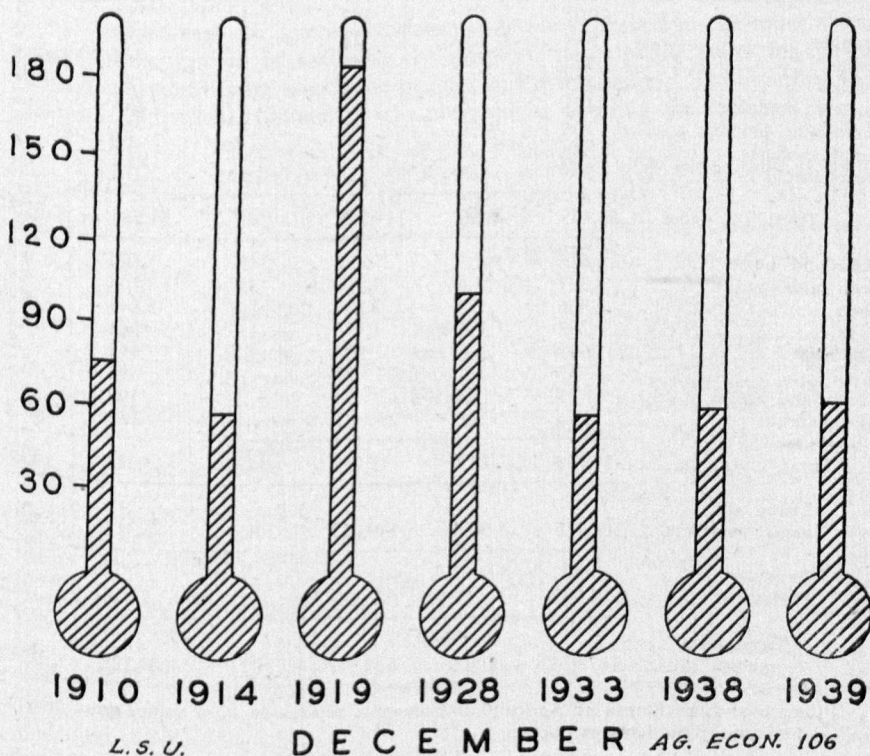


FIG. 2.—LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES
(1924-29 = 100)

The level of Louisiana farm product prices as of December, 1939, indicates that the majority of them have lost most of their gains in the last few years and now compare less favorably with the pre-depression prices of 1924-29 and the pre-war prices of 1909-14 than at any time since 1933.

TABLE 3. CASH INCOME FROM LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCTS, 1926 to 1935¹

FARM PRODUCT	AVERAGE INCOME PER YEAR					
	1926-1935		1926-1930		1931-1935	
	1000 Dollars	Per Cent	1000 Dollars	Per Cent	1000 Dollars	Per Cent
Cotton lint	39,663	37.1	53,454	41.1	25,873	30.8
Cottonseed	5,236	4.9	6,670	5.1	3,802	4.5
Rice	13,023	12.2	16,183	12.5	9,863	11.7
Sugar cane	9,238	8.6	8,336	6.4	10,139	12.1
Strawberries	5,502	5.1	6,796	5.2	4,208	5.0
Other truck crops	4,826	4.5	7,770	6.0	1,883	2.2
Sweet potatoes	3,784	3.5	5,815	4.5	1,752	2.1
Irish potatoes	2,343	2.2	3,603	2.8	1,083	1.3
Corn	680	.6	974	.8	386	.5
Hay	342	.3	422	.3	261	.3
Cow peas	92	.1	22	.0	162	.2
Soybeans	132	.1	141	.1	124	.1
Peanuts	102	.1	147	.1	56	.1
Oranges	349	.3	528	.4	171	.4
Pecans	428	.4	544	.4	313	.1
Peaches	75	.1	68	.1	81	.3
Nursery products	193	.2	101	.1	285	.1
Greenhouse products	103	.1	150	.1	56	.1
Forest products	2,048	1.9	2,884	2.2	1,212	1.4
Miscellaneous	296	.3	317	.2	275	.3
TOTAL ALL CROPS	88,455	82.6	114,925	88.4	61,985	73.7
Milk and butter	5,636	5.3	5,688	4.4	5,584	6.7
Beef cattle and calves	4,307	4.0	4,510	3.5	4,103	4.9
Hogs	2,566	2.4	2,287	1.7	2,845	3.4
Eggs	1,228	1.1	1,493	1.1	962	1.1
Chickens	685	.6	927	.7	443	.5
Wool	87	.1	82	.1	93	.1
Sheep and lambs	91	.1	74	.1	109	.1
Miscellaneous	110	.1	31	.0	188	.2
TOTAL LIVESTOCK	14,710	13.7	15,092	11.6	14,327	17.0
TOTAL ALL FARM PRODUCTS	103,165	96.3	130,017	100.0	76,312	90.7
BENEFIT PAYMENTS	3,908	3.7	-----	-----	7,816	9.3
TOTAL CASH INCOME	107,073	100.0	130,017	100.0	84,128	100.0

¹Computed from Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports on farm value, gross income, and cash income from farm production.

al commodities in the composite price index were weighted according to their relative importance in the total cash income as shown in Table 3. Thus each commodity was weighted according to the percentage of importance which the commodity represented of the total annual farm cash income, based on average cash income for the 1926-35 period. An example, giving the procedure in computing the composite index number of December, 1939, is shown in Table 4.

Monthly prices for sugar cane and for strawberries, two important Louisiana crops, were not available as these crops are harvested and marketed over such a short period. However, because of the importance of these two crops in the total cash income it was felt advisable to devise some method whereby they could be included in the monthly composite index. This was accomplished by holding these prices in the monthly index at the annual price from the end of one crop season to the beginning of the next. This procedure is statistically incorrect to some extent as it tends to stabilize the monthly fluctuations, but this slight variation is more than offset by the increased value of a composite index including all important Louisiana farm products.

Adjustment for seasonal variation was accomplished in the monthly composite index number by adjusting the simple relatives of the prices for the individual commodities on which the general index was based. The monthly index for each individual commodity was obtained by dividing the reported price for

TABLE 4. COMPUTATION OF INDEX NUMBERS FOR DECEMBER, 1939
(August, 1924 - July, 1929 = 100)

COMMODITY	LOUISIANA FARM PRICE, DECEMBER, 1939	LOUISIANA FARM PRICE, DECEMBER, 1924-29	SIMPLE INDEX NUMBER	PROPORTION EACH COMMODITY WAS OF TOTAL CASH INCOME FOR THE 1926-35 PERIOD	WEIGHTED RELATIVE
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Beef cattle, cwt.....	4.950	5.540	89	3.65	3.25
Butter, lb.....	.270	.460	59	1.67	.99
Butterfat, lb.....	.240	.420	57	.42	.24
Chickens, lb.....	.145	.225	64	.73	.47
Corn, bu.....	.610	.960	64	.72	.46
Cotton, lb.....	.096	.171	56	42.01	23.53
Cottonseed, ton.....	23.100	28.680	81	5.55	4.50
Eggs, doz.....	.266	.450	59	1.30	.77
Hay, ton.....	8.900	15.680	57	.36	.21
Hogs, cwt.....	4.700	8.880	53	2.72	1.44
Irish potatoes, bu.....	.950	1.730	55	2.48	1.36
Lambs, cwt.....	5.500	8.620	64	.10	.06
Milk, cwt.....	2.400	2.880	83	3.88	3.22
Rice, bu.....	.740	1.180	63	13.79	8.69
Strawberries, 24 pt. crt.....	1.840	2.945	62	5.83	3.61
Sugar cane, ton.....	2.650	4.600	58	9.78	5.67
Sweet potatoes, bu.....	.550	1.060	52	4.01	2.09
Veal calves, cwt.....	6.100	6.600	92	.91	.84
Wool, lb.....	.230	.330	70	.09	.06
TOTAL.....			---	100.00	61.46

TABLE 5. MONTHLY COMPOSITE INDEX NUMBERS OF LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES¹
(August, 1924 - July, 1929 = 100)

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
1909								57	56	61	66	67
1910	78	76	75	76	75	73	72	71	68	71	74	76
1911	75	74	72	71	71	70	71	67	61	60	61	60
1912	62	65	66	69	72	69	73	68	66	65	69	72
1913	72	72	71	69	70	69	69	69	69	73	76	69
1914	69	68	65	67	69	69	71	70	61	55	54	57
1915	59	62	62	64	64	62	62	59	60	67	72	72
1916	73	77	76	78	73	76	76	79	79	88	101	101
1917	98	98	101	110	119	124	130	125	124	133	144	150
1918	157	163	166	161	155	148	146	144	149	151	151	149
1919	146	146	142	141	152	161	168	173	160	169	180	184
1920	207	208	209	210	203	207	196	173	151	136	125	111
1921	88	86	80	76	77	76	75	77	87	97	94	90
1922	88	87	88	87	88	94	97	91	87	93	106	108
1923	115	120	124	124	114	116	116	107	114	123	131	139
1924	142	141	128	132	132	129	127	122	112	116	118	122
1925	118	120	122	122	119	119	119	111	111	114	110	107
1926	105	101	99	97	97	98	95	90	91	80	79	79
1927	81	87	86	87	87	89	90	90	104	102	102	101
1928	100	95	95	97	102	101	102	95	92	97	99	100
1929	98	99	100	98	97	94	94	91	92	93	93	93
1930	92	91	85	87	86	85	78	72	68	68	69	66
1931	65	65	65	65	62	56	59	49	45	44	49	47
1932	47	46	47	44	42	38	39	41	43	43	42	41
1933	40	39	40	41	48	50	55	52	52	54	57	56
1934	58	63	63	62	60	61	63	64	67	69	72	71
1935	69	70	68	68	68	68	67	61	57	62	66	67
1936	69	69	68	69	69	70	72	72	73	73	75	76
1937	77	79	80	82	77	72	72	65	58	57	58	58
1938	56	57	56	56	57	56	56	55	53	56	58	58
1939	57	57	56	56	57	55	55	52	58	58	60	61

¹The method used in determining these index numbers was the aggregate average of the simple index numbers in Table 2 weighted according to the proportion each commodity made up of the average annual cash farm income for the 10-year period 1926-1935.

each month by the average price for the same month in the base period. In this manner a monthly price index for each commodity was computed which was corrected for seasonal variation to the extent that it occurred in the base period.

The general index of local market prices of all Louisiana farm products indicates that farm prices declined from an average of 100 during the 1924-29 base period to a low point of 38 in June, 1932. Following this a gradual recovery took place, reaching a peak of 82 in April, 1937. This increase was influenced by reduced marketings, revaluation of the currency, and by the strong upward surge of business. Declining business conditions and heavier crop production beginning in the last half of 1937 caused the Louisiana farm price level to fall rapidly in 1938 to about 56 and it remained relatively stable around that point during the first six months of 1939, but declined to 52 in August and rose to 58 in September in response to general price increases as a result of the European war.

Index Numbers by Groups of Commodities

To simplify a comparison of the price movements of a group of similar commodities such as feed crops with a group of different commodities such as meat animals, the index numbers of the 19 Louisiana farm commodities were combined into seven major groups. The commodities were grouped according to their similarity in production requirements and use. Composite index numbers of the price of cotton and cottonseed, feed crops, livestock products, meat animals, rice, sugar cane, and truck crops are shown in Table 6. The individual commodities within each group were weighted according to the proportion each made up of the total cash farm income for all commodities in the group.

The index numbers of this series for the past several years point out several important facts. For the 1938-39 crop year, the Louisiana farm price for cotton and cottonseed was only 49 per cent of the 1924-29 base. The index for feed crops stood at 55; rice, 55; truck crops, 57; sugar cane, 62; livestock products, 68; and meat animals, 78. This indicates that in 1939 Louisiana producers of cotton, feed crops, rice, and truck crops were receiving relatively lower prices than producers of livestock and livestock products. In 1909-14 all groups except truck crops had approximately the same prices in comparison to the 1924-29 base years. Truck crops were relatively low during the 1909-14 period.

During the World War, prices of cotton, rice, and sugar cane reached much higher levels than did those of livestock, livestock products, and truck crops and after the war declined more drastically than did prices of the other groups of commodities.

Relation of Louisiana Farm Product Prices to United States Farm Product Prices and to Business Conditions

General business conditions and the agricultural situation are closely related. Thus it is necessary for farm people and agricultural workers to have a general knowledge of historic and current business conditions and trends in industrial activity as a means of understanding why certain fluctuations in farm product prices have occurred in the past and what current adjustment will best serve their needs. The demand for farm products depends to a large extent on

the level of employment in industries other than agriculture—on the industrial production of automobiles, clothing, building materials, and on other similar industries. When business conditions are improving rapidly, farmers can expect increased demand for farm products and when general business activity is stable or declining, the demand for farm products usually follows the same trend.

A comparison of Louisiana farm product prices to United States farm product prices, prices paid by farmers, all commodity prices, and to two indices of industrial activity is shown in Table 7. Data for some of the index numbers were not available for the entire 30-year period, but comparisons for more recent years can be made.

Throughout the 30-year period, Louisiana farm commodity prices followed the general trends in United States farm prices. The Louisiana index showed more violent fluctuation than did the United States index, rising higher and falling lower, but both followed the same trend. Thus Louisiana farmers cannot expect prices for their products to be much out of line with prices received by farmers in other states.

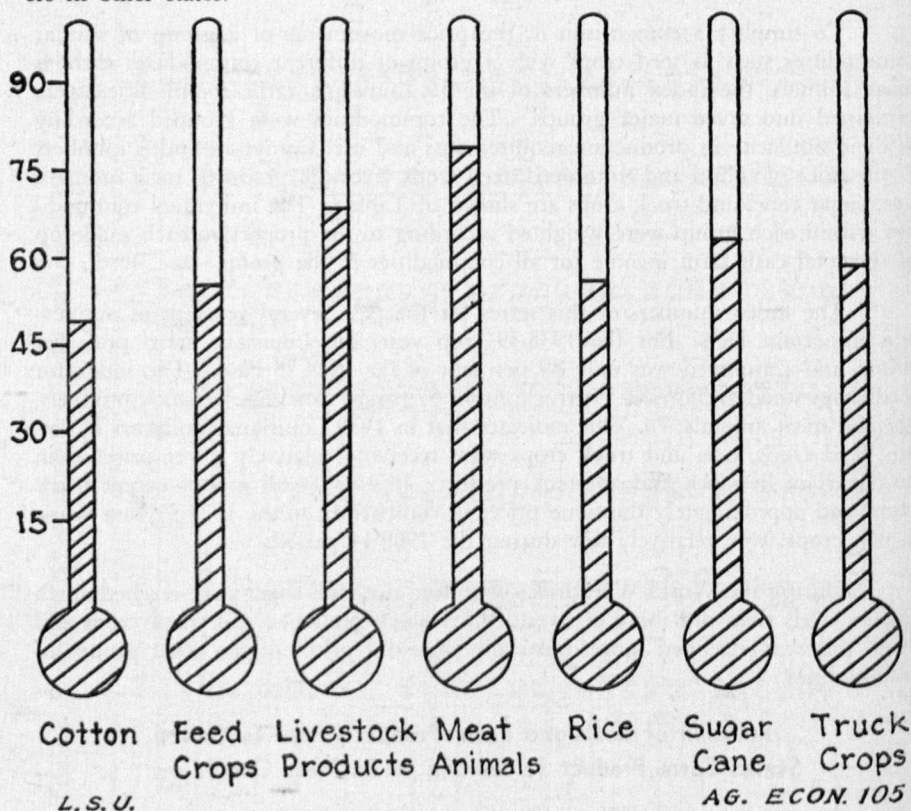


FIG. 3.—LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES BY COMMODITY GROUPS
FOR THE 1938-39 CROP YEAR
(1924-29 = 100)

Louisiana farm product prices were lower in 1938-39 than during the 1924-29 base period, but all prices did not fall at the same rate. In the 1938-39 crop year, producers of cotton, feed crops, rice, sugar cane, and truck crops were receiving relatively lower prices than producers of livestock and livestock products.

TABLE 6. INDEX NUMBERS OF LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES BY GROUPS
(August, 1924 - July, 1929 = 100)

	COTTON ¹	FEED CROPS ²	LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS ³	MEAT ANIMALS ⁴	RICE	SUGAR CANE	TRUCK CROPS ⁵	ALL LA. FARM PRICES
1909-10	76	72	74	71	66	83	52	69
1910-11	78	65	72	67	56	80	53	72
1911-12	57	77	74	65	75	93	60	65
1912-13	64	75	73	70	77	81	57	69
1913-14	67	79	75	80	72	68	57	70
1914-15	46	83	77	83	81	82	57	61
1915-16	67	73	77	81	72	99	52	72
1916-17	107	100	89	100	99	115	85	102
1917-18	161	144	109	132	171	154	94	148
1918-19	162	158	135	139	163	158	103	150
1919-20	206	163	152	142	225	304	124	192
1920-21	83	105	132	112	89	125	107	104
1921-22	88	76	103	81	84	79	92	90
1922-23	132	91	102	78	86	127	78	110
1923-24	154	101	108	83	99	154	98	129
1924-25	124	120	101	90	119	121	120	119
1925-26	97	105	102	91	125	88	115	104
1926-27	72	90	99	95	94	107	102	86
1927-28	107	94	99	107	80	100	86	99
1928-29	101	92	100	117	81	84	89	97
1929-30	86	88	97	110	88	82	87	89
1930-31	52	83	81	85	66	73	81	65
1931-32	31	47	58	65	45	72	57	45
1932-33	37	44	48	52	40	67	43	44
1933-34	57	58	57	51	66	72	52	58
1934-35	73	79	68	64	72	51	54	68
1935-36	68	66	70	76	68	69	58	67
1936-37	75	86	78	80	79	81	68	76
1937-38	48	65	74	80	57	68	56	58
1938-39	49	55	68	78	55	62	57	56

¹Includes cotton and cottonseed.

²Includes corn and hay.

³Includes butter, butterfat, eggs, milk, and wool.

⁴Includes beef cattle, chickens, hogs, lambs, and veal calves.

⁵Includes sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, and strawberries.

The general level of prices received by Louisiana farmers and of United States farm product prices followed closely the level of all commodity prices in the United States. When all commodity prices increased, farm prices increased; when all commodity prices declined, farm prices declined. This indicates that one of the important factors affecting Louisiana farm prices at a particular time is the current level of all commodity prices in the United States.

The trends in industrial production and building activity were also related to the trends of farm product prices. When industrial production was expanding,

TABLE 7. LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCT PRICES, UNITED STATES FARM PRODUCT PRICES, AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS, 1909-39¹

YEAR	ALL COMMODITY PRICES ²	LOUISIANA FARM PRICES ³	U. S FARM PRICES ⁴	PRICES PAID BY FARMERS ⁵	INDUS- TRIAL PRO- DUCTION ⁶	BUILDING CONTRACTS AWARDED ⁷
BASE PERIOD	1924-29	1924-29	1924-29	1924-29	1923-25	1923-25
1909-10	72	69	-----	-----	-----	-----
1910-11	67	72	67	-----	-----	-----
1911-12	68	65	67	-----	-----	-----
1912-13	71	69	67	-----	-----	-----
1913-14	70	70	71	-----	-----	-----
1914-15	70	61	67	-----	-----	-----
1915-16	78	72	72	-----	-----	-----
1916-17	106	102	104	-----	-----	-----
1917-18	128	148	132	-----	-----	-----
1918-19	137	150	142	-----	-----	-----
1919-20	157	192	156	-----	90	77
1920-21	120	104	100	-----	72	50
1921-22	96	90	88	-----	75	72
1922-23	103	110	94	-----	99	82
1923-24	99	129	97	98	96	90
1924-25	103	119	103	101	100	105
1925-26	104	104	104	101	106	131
1926-27	98	86	93	99	109	130
1927-28	98	99	101	99	106	133
1928-29	98	97	100	100	118	126
1929-30	93	89	96	98	107	104
1930-31	79	65	69	87	86	73
1931-32	69	45	48	74	68	38
1932-33	64	44	44	67	70	22
1933-34	74	58	55	76	81	36
1934-35	80	68	71	82	83	29
1935-36	81	67	73	79	97	52
1936-37	86	76	86	84	114	60
1937-38	83	58	70	82	87	54
1938-39	78	56	63	78	97	76

¹Annual averages are on a crop year basis, from August to July.

²Bureau of Labor Statistics index, 1926 = 100, converted to the 1924-29 base by multiplying by 101.562.

³19 Commodity index of Louisiana farm prices, weighted according to the proportion each commodity made up of the total cash farm income during the 10-year period 1926-35.

⁴Bureau of Agricultural Economics index, 1910-14 = 100, converted to the 1924-29 base by multiplying by 68.236.

⁵Bureau of Agricultural Economics index, 1910-14 = 100, converted to the 1924-29 base by multiplying by 64.711.

⁷Federal Reserve Board index, 1923-25 = 100.

prices received by farmers increased and when industrial activity contracted, farm product prices decreased. Thus prices received by Louisiana farmers appear to be somewhat dependent on general business activity throughout the United States.

The prices which farmers receive and the changes in these prices as shown by the index numbers are most important in relation to the prices which farmers must pay for what they buy. Data are not available on either wholesale prices for Louisiana alone or for prices Louisiana farmers pay for products they buy for production and consumption. The index numbers of prices paid by farmers as shown in Table 7 are averages for the United States as a whole. In general, these price changes can be considered fairly representative of Louisiana conditions except where price changes have been relatively greater or less than the United States average.

United States prices paid by farmers have varied in the same direction as prices received by Louisiana farmers and United States farm product prices, but usually have moved more slowly and less drastically. While United States farm commodity prices declined from 100 in 1928-29 to 44 in 1932-33, prices farmers paid for commodities used in production and consumption declined from 100 to 67 during the same period. This means that during a decline in farm prices, the purchasing power of farm products decreases even more rapidly because prices paid do not fall in line with prices received. In a rapid price rise, however, farm prices usually increase more rapidly, resulting in increased purchasing power of farm products.

Purchasing Power of Louisiana Farm Products

The price or money value of an item over a long period of time is sometimes not an accurate measure of its worth, because the value is not the number of dollars received, but how many pairs of shoes or sacks of flour can be bought with those dollars. In the 1919-20 crop year Louisiana beef cattle sold for \$8.03 per hundred pounds. In 1932-33 Louisiana beef cattle sold for \$3.31 per hundred-weight, or less than one-half as much as in 1919-20. However, \$3.31 in 1932-33 bought just as many shoes and sacks of flour as did \$8.03 in 1919-20. Therefore, the purchasing power of Louisiana beef cattle, or what the farmer could get in exchange for a hundred pounds of beef, was just as high in 1932-33 as in 1919-20, in terms of shoes and flour, in spite of the difference in price.

The index numbers of the purchasing power of the farm price of the 19 principal Louisiana farm products are shown in Table 8. This purchasing power index number is not a complicated mechanism constructed to confuse, but is simply the average value of each item in Louisiana in terms of what it would buy of other commodities, or the true value. It was computed by dividing the actual index number of price for each item by the index number of wholesale prices of all commodities in the United States. Thus the purchasing power index for a commodity shows the relation of the price of that commodity to the general level of all prices.

The purchasing power index numbers for Louisiana indicate that for the 1938-39 crop year, beef cattle and veal calves were the only two products which were higher in value than in the base years, 1924 to 1929. In general, livestock and livestock products had a higher purchasing power in 1939 than did feed crops. Cash crops, such as truck crops, cotton, and rice, were lowest in purchasing power at this time.

The data indicate that the purchasing power of livestock has fluctuated

TABLE 8. PURCHASING POWER OF THE FARM PRICE OF LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCTS¹
(August, 1924 - July, 1929 = 100)

	BEEF CATTLE	BUTTER	BUTTER- FAT	CHIC- KENS	CORN	COTTON	COTTON- SEED	EGGS	HAY	HOGS
1909-10	99	82	92	76	100	104	116	97	98	106
1910-11	101	87	88	86	92	117	118	96	108	106
1911-12	98	91	98	84	107	84	89	94	122	94
1912-13	105	90	95	81	102	91	92	92	110	96
1913-14	126	92	94	86	112	96	89	102	115	107
1914-15	135	93	96	83	122	64	86	91	114	106
1915-16	119	85	85	73	93	79	136	84	97	91
1916-17	101	70	76	63	101	93	156	79	78	93
1917-18	104	70	73	61	125	120	167	84	88	118
1918-19	101	79	91	70	121	113	149	89	102	116
1919-20	90	72	89	74	109	129	139	91	92	99
1920-21	97	89	97	91	86	66	65	94	91	95
1921-22	84	90	98	89	75	92	95	90	88	86
1922-23	72	85	98	89	89	130	110	93	88	80
1923-24	82	102	102	98	105	158	134	100	95	83
1924-25	83	98	94	96	117	122	106	100	115	95
1925-26	78	97	91	93	96	94	89	102	110	101
1926-27	89	102	102	105	89	73	73	96	97	109
1927-28	117	103	107	101	99	107	117	100	90	98
1928-29	136	100	105	105	98	102	115	101	86	96
1929-30	129	104	102	104	99	91	105	107	88	100
1930-31	111	103	89	98	109	64	84	89	96	101
1931-32	102	88	71	89	66	45	43	73	75	82
1932-33	92	78	58	75	66	59	51	76	73	69
1933-34	77	72	56	67	84	78	68	75	68	60
1934-35	86	79	73	75	110	85	144	90	79	73
1935-36	96	81	74	87	86	76	132	90	73	90
1936-37	98	80	83	78	110	81	134	88	79	90
1937-38	104	79	79	84	79	55	79	80	77	90
1938-39	112	79	67	85	68	59	93	82	76	85

¹Computed by dividing the index numbers of the wholesale prices of all commodities in the United States, 1924-29 = 100, into the index numbers of prices for each commodity on the same base. Crop year averages are the simple averages of the 12 months, August to July, for each year.

TABLE 8. PURCHASING POWER OF THE FARM PRICE OF LOUISIANA FARM PRODUCTS¹—(continued)
(August, 1924 - July, 1929 = 100)

	IRISH POTATOES	LAMBS	MILK	RICE	STRAW- BERRIES	SUGAR CANE	SWEET POTATOES	VEAL CALVES	WOOL
1909-10	76	82	112	92	—	—	69	92	99
1910-11	78	93	124	85	—	122	81	96	78
1911-12	96	93	123	109	—	128	82	99	69
1912-13	79	87	115	108	—	121	80	91	63
1913-14	84	103	121	104	—	105	79	112	62
1914-15	92	118	127	116	—	109	75	123	67
1915-16	81	119	115	93	—	118	59	109	69
1916-17	117	94	94	92	—	103	56	100	70
1917-18	81	90	94	134	—	108	67	95	99
1918-19	65	90	112	119	72	114	84	85	95
1919-20	97	73	111	144	68	152	81	81	66
1920-21	99	81	132	73	98	160	77	85	32
1921-22	114	79	124	87	109	103	68	77	41
1922-23	97	72	109	84	76	104	65	67	56
1923-24	90	84	115	100	104	144	96	75	88
1924-25	90	92	97	116	106	131	146	78	110
1925-26	134	87	98	120	101	98	110	80	96
1926-27	109	95	102	96	116	101	85	89	91
1927-28	88	105	100	81	97	105	76	118	98
1928-29	78	121	103	84	105	93	81	138	105
1929-30	103	110	104	94	88	89	94	140	94
1930-31	86	111	107	84	113	97	96	118	71
1931-32	69	90	89	65	102	106	63	100	43
1932-33	68	76	76	62	73	108	57	89	50
1933-34	81	69	80	90	67	95	69	74	86
1934-35	65	68	89	90	68	75	71	83	76
1935-36	73	88	90	83	79	75	57	94	83
1936-37	83	78	95	91	77	88	80	92	98
1937-38	57	84	98	69	73	88	65	101	95
1938-39	67	85	95	71	85	80	64	109	81

¹Computed by dividing the index numbers of the wholesale prices of all commodities in the United States, 1924-29 = 100, into the index numbers of prices for each commodity on the same base. Crop year averages are the simple averages of the 12 months, August to July, for each year.

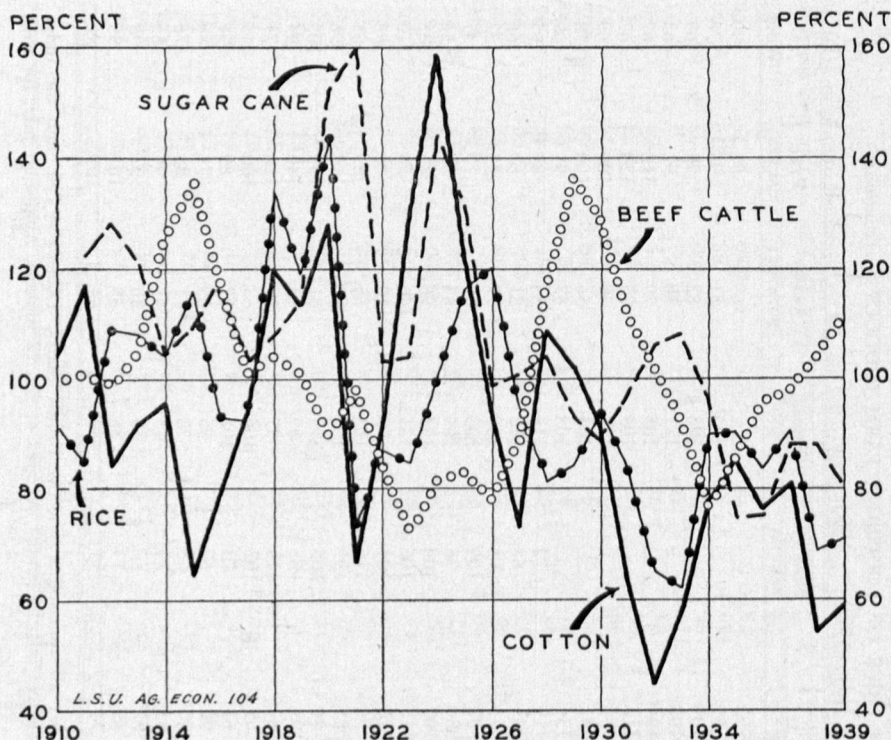


FIG. 4.— PURCHASING POWER OF THE FARM PRICE OF COTTON, RICE, SUGAR CANE, AND BEEF CATTLE IN LOUISIANA, 1910-1939 (1924-29 = 100)

The purchasing power of the farm price of individual Louisiana farm commodities has varied widely from time to time. Of the few important commodities, cotton, rice, sugar cane, and beef cattle, cotton had the lowest purchasing power in 1939 while beef cattle was highest in purchasing power.

much less widely from one year to the next than has that of cash crops. Also, the purchasing power of beef cattle, veal calves, hogs, and sheep seemed to fluctuate in fairly regular cycles, while the variation for crops was much more erratic.

ACREAGE, YIELDS, PRICES, AND FARM VALUE OF PRINCIPAL LOUISIANA CROPS, 1909-39

Information regarding the production, prices, and farm value of the crops most important in Louisiana agriculture can be obtained from abstracts of numerous publications, but is not readily available in condensed form. Also, recent improvements in statistical technique by the Division of Agricultural Statistics of the Agricultural Marketing Service have resulted in revisions of many of the earlier published figures. Because of the unavailability of much of the data in condensed form and because of the recent revisions which have not been published for the state of Louisiana, tables are presented herewith showing the acreage, yield per acre, total production, average price per unit, and farm value of cotton, cottonseed, sugar cane, rice, strawberries, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, tame hay, wild hay, corn, and oats, from 1909 to 1939. These revised estimates were furnished through the courtesy of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture.

The data for each crop include a 5-year average for all items. Thus the average for the preceding five years can be obtained without further calculations for any period, making it easier to determine significant trends which are not revealed by changes from any one year to the next.

Similar data for the minor crops not included will be supplied on request by the Department of Agricultural Economics, Louisiana State University, University, Louisiana.

Cotton

The acreage of cotton in Louisiana increased from 931,000 in 1909-10 to 1,953,000 in 1930-31, then declined to 1,119,000 in 1938-39 (Table 9). The most rapid increase in cotton acreage occurred from 1921-22 to 1925-26, and the most rapid decline from 1931-32 to 1934-35. The average acreage for the 5-year period 1934-39 of 1,309,000 acres was lower than in any other similar period since 1921-26.

The decline in cotton acreage after 1930 was due not only to reductions under the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, but also to voluntary reductions by Louisiana farmers prior to the establishment of the act, as is indicated by an acreage reduction of from 1,953,000 acres in 1930-31 to 1,688,000 acres in 1932-33.

Cotton yields increased from an average of 169 pounds of lint cotton per acre for the 1909-14 period to 258 pounds per acre for 1934-39. Variations in yield per acre from year to year were more erratic than changes in acreage, but the general trend over the 30-year period was for increased yields per acre.

The price per pound averaged 12.11 cents for the 1909-14 period as compared to 24.87 cents during the 1916-21 period and 10.57 cents in 1934-39.

Cottonseed

The production of cottonseed varied directly with the production of lint cotton, but the price relationships were somewhat different. The price of cotton doubled from 1909-14 to 1916-21, while cottonseed was priced about three times as high in the latter period (Table 10). In more recent years the price of cottonseed has declined less than that of cotton; the average price for the 1934-39 period of \$27.52 per ton was higher than in any other similar period since 1929-30, while cotton lint was somewhat lower in relation to former years. Increased demand for cottonseed by-products has most likely caused the relative stability of cottonseed prices in recent years.

Rice

The acreage of rice in Louisiana increased from 349,000 acres for the 5-year period 1909-14 to 578,000 acres in 1918-23, then decreased to 419,000 acres in 1931-36 (Table 11).

Rice yields have increased steadily during the 30-year period. The average yield in the 1909-14 period was 34.4 bushels per acre as compared to 41.7 bushels for the five years 1934-39. Prices, however, have been relatively low in recent years. The average price from 1909 to 1914 was \$0.79 per bushel as compared to \$1.64 per bushel from 1917 to 1922 and \$0.74 per bushel from 1934 to 1939.

The average farm value of the rice crop for the 1934-39 period was slightly more than \$14,000,000. This commodity was second only to cotton as a major source of cash income to Louisiana producers.

TABLE 11. THE PRODUCTION AND PRICE OF RICE IN LOUISIANA, 1909 - 1938¹

CROP YEAR ²	ACREAGE ³		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		PRICE PER BUSHEL		FARM VALUE	
	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Acres		Bushels		1000 Bushels		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1909-10	370	----	34.1	----	12,617	-----	.77	----	9,715	-----
1910-11	360	----	37.0	----	13,320	-----	.65	----	8,658	-----
1911-12	350	----	33.5	----	11,725	-----	.78	----	9,146	-----
1912-13	315	----	35.5	----	11,182	-----	.88	----	9,840	-----
1913-14	350	349	32.0	34.4	11,200	12,000	.87	.79	9,744	9,421
1914-15	320	339	36.0	34.8	11,520	11,789	.89	.81	10,253	9,528
1915-16	385	344	33.5	34.1	12,898	11,705	.81	.85	10,447	9,886
1916-17	435	361	46.0	36.6	20,010	13,362	.95	.88	19,010	11,859
1917-18	485	395	33.0	36.1	16,005	14,327	1.89	1.08	30,249	15,941
1918-19	565	438	32.0	36.1	18,080	15,703	1.73	1.25	31,278	20,247
1919-20	543	483	35.0	35.9	19,005	17,200	2.49	1.57	47,322	27,661
1920-21	676	541	37.0	36.6	25,012	19,622	1.13	1.64	28,264	31,225
1921-22	549	564	33.7	34.1	18,501	19,321	.96	1.64	17,761	30,975
1922-23	555	578	34.8	34.5	19,314	19,982	.95	1.45	18,348	28,595
1923-24	474	559	33.5	34.8	15,879	19,542	1.09	1.32	17,308	25,801
1924-25	430	537	35.0	34.8	15,050	18,751	1.32	1.09	19,866	20,309
1925-26	414	484	34.2	34.2	14,159	16,581	1.49	1.16	21,097	18,876
1926-27	492	473	33.0	34.1	16,236	16,128	1.11	1.19	18,022	18,928
1927-28	520	466	38.1	34.8	19,812	16,227	.92	1.19	18,227	18,904
1928-29	495	470	38.1	35.7	18,860	16,823	.94	1.16	17,728	18,988
1929-30	465	477	40.5	36.8	18,832	17,580	1.00	1.09	18,832	18,781
1930-31	491	493	39.0	37.7	19,149	18,578	.77	.95	14,745	17,511
1931-32	458	486	35.0	38.1	16,030	18,537	.52	.83	8,336	15,574
1932-33	415	465	39.5	38.4	16,392	17,853	.43	.73	7,049	13,338
1933-34	395	445	41.0	39.0	16,195	17,320	.78	.70	12,632	12,319
1934-35	415	435	40.0	39.0	16,766	16,906	.82	.66	13,748	11,302
1935-36	412	419	42.0	39.6	17,296	16,536	.71	.65	12,280	10,809
1936-37	479	423	44.0	41.4	21,076	17,545	.90	.73	18,968	12,935
1937-38	517	444	40.0	41.5	20,680	18,403	.69	.78	14,269	14,379
1938-39	494	463	42.0	41.7	20,748	19,313	.60	.74	12,449	14,343

¹Adapted from revised data furnished by R. F. Hale of the Agricultural Marketing Service.²Crop year is from August through the following July.³Acres figures are total acres harvested.

TABLE 12. THE PRODUCTION AND PRICE OF SUGAR CANE IN LOUISIANA, 1911 - 1938¹

CROP YEAR ²	ACREAGE ³		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		PRICE PER TON		FARM VALUE	
	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Acres		Short tons		1000 Short tons		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1911-12	310	----	19.0	----	5,887	----	4.29	----	25,255	----
1912-13	197	----	11.0	----	2,162	----	3.73	----	8,064	----
1913-14	248	----	17.0	----	4,214	----	3.13	----	13,190	----
1914-15	213	----	15.0	----	3,199	----	3.75	----	11,996	----
1915-16	183	230	11.0	14.6	2,018	3,496	4.55	3.89	9,182	13,537
1916-17	221	212	18.0	14.4	4,072	3,133	5.29	4.09	21,541	12,795
1917-18	244	222	15.6	15.3	3,813	3,463	7.10	4.76	27,072	16,596
1918-19	231	218	18.0	15.5	4,170	3,454	7.28	5.59	30,358	20,030
1919-20	179	212	10.5	14.6	1,883	3,191	14.00	7.64	26,362	22,903
1920-21	183	212	13.6	15.1	2,493	3,286	5.76	7.89	14,360	23,939
1921-22	226	213	18.5	15.2	4,181	3,308	3.63	7.55	15,177	22,666
1922-23	242	212	15.6	15.2	3,778	3,301	5.83	7.30	22,026	21,657
1923-24	215	209	11.1	13.9	2,387	2,944	7.09	7.26	16,924	18,970
1924-25	163	206	7.5	13.3	1,228	2,813	5.58	5.58	6,852	15,068
1925-26	190	207	13.9	13.3	2,644	2,844	4.05	5.24	10,708	14,337
1926-27	128	188	6.8	11.0	864	2,180	4.92	5.49	4,251	12,152
1927-28	73	154	13.2	10.5	962	1,617	4.61	5.25	4,435	8,634
1928-29	130	137	14.3	11.1	1,860	1,512	3.86	4.60	7,180	6,685
1929-30	185	141	15.8	12.8	2,918	1,850	3.77	4.24	11,001	7,515
1930-31	175	138	14.6	12.9	2,559	1,833	3.38	4.11	8,649	7,103
1931-32	169	146	13.2	14.2	2,232	2,106	3.29	3.78	7,343	7,722
1932-33	208	173	13.9	14.4	2,886	2,491	3.06	3.47	8,831	8,601
1933-34	197	187	13.2	14.1	2,600	2,639	3.29	3.36	8,554	8,876
1934-35	222	194	13.6	13.7	3,019	2,659	2.33	3.07	7,034	8,082
1935-36	239	207	17.1	14.2	4,087	2,965	3.18	3.0 ²	12,997	8,952
1936-37	227	219	21.4	15.8	4,854	3,489	3.71	3.11	18,008	11,085
1937-38	254	228	20.7	17.2	5,258	3,964	3.12	3.13	16,405	12,600
1938-39	270	242	21.6	18.9	5,832	4,610	2.65	3.00	15,455	13,980

¹Adapted from Agricultural Statistics, 1939, and earlier data furnished by the Agricultural Marketing Service.²Crop year is from August through the following July.³Acreage figures are total acres harvested.

TABLE 14. THE PRODUCTION AND PRICE OF SWEET POTATOES IN LOUISIANA, 1909-1938¹

CROP YEAR ²	ACREAGE ³		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		PRICE PER BUSHEL		FARM VALUE	
	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Acres		Bushels		1000 Bushels		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1909-10	57	---	75	---	4,275	---	.59	---	2,522	---
1910-11	55	---	78	---	4,290	---	.69	---	2,960	---
1911-12	57	---	81	---	4,617	---	.72	---	3,324	---
1912-13	56	---	78	---	4,368	---	.75	---	3,276	---
1913-14	60	57	80	78	4,800	4,470	.71	.69	3,408	3,098
1914-15	58	57	79	79	4,582	4,531	.67	.71	3,070	3,208
1915-16	62	59	78	79	4,836	4,641	.58	.69	2,805	3,177
1916-17	64	60	79	79	5,056	4,728	.73	.69	3,691	3,250
1917-18	62	61	78	79	4,836	4,822	1.12	.76	5,416	3,678
1918-19	64	62	70	77	4,480	4,758	1.47	.91	6,586	4,314
1919-20	68	64	80	77	5,440	4,930	1.62	1.10	8,813	5,462
1920-21	72	66	90	79	6,480	5,258	1.16	1.22	7,517	6,405
1921-22	73	68	80	80	5,840	5,415	.84	1.24	4,906	6,648
1922-23	64	68	85	81	5,440	5,536	.89	1.20	4,842	6,533
1923-24	54	66	80	83	4,320	5,504	1.24	1.15	5,357	6,287
1924-25	50	63	45	76	2,250	4,866	1.71	1.17	3,848	5,294
1925-26	60	60	70	72	4,200	4,410	1.62	1.26	6,804	5,151
1926-27	66	59	78	72	5,148	4,272	1.06	1.30	5,457	5,262
1927-28	83	63	82	71	6,806	4,545	.99	1.32	6,738	5,641
1928-29	62	64	77	70	4,774	4,636	1.01	1.28	4,822	5,534
1929-30	67	68	74	76	4,958	5,177	1.16	1.17	5,751	5,914
1930-31	60	68	68	76	4,080	5,153	1.11	1.07	4,529	5,459
1931-32	83	71	73	75	6,059	5,335	.60	.97	3,635	5,095
1932-33	111	77	66	72	7,326	5,439	.46	.87	3,370	4,421
1933-34	98	84	67	70	6,566	5,798	.65	.80	4,268	4,311
1934-35	117	94	66	68	7,722	6,351	.74	.71	5,714	4,303
1935-36	123	106	72	69	8,856	7,306	.58	.61	5,136	4,425
1936-37	113	112	69	68	7,797	7,653	.87	.66	6,783	5,054
1937-38	90	108	73	69	6,570	7,502	.69	.71	4,533	5,287
1938-39	99	108	70	70	6,930	7,575	.65	.71	4,504	5,334

¹Adapted from revised data furnished by R. F. Hale of the Agricultural Marketing Service.²Crop year is from August through the following July.³Acreage figures are total acres harvested.

TABLE 15. THE PRODUCTION AND PRICE OF IRISH POTATOES IN LOUISIANA, 1909 - 1938¹

CROP YEAR ²	ACREAGE ³		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		PRICE PER BUSHEL		FARM VALUE	
	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Acres		Bushels		1000 Bushels		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1909-10	20	---	65	---	1,300	---	1.01	---	1,313	---
1910-11	25	---	52	---	1,300	---	.77	---	1,001	---
1911-12	22	---	66	---	1,452	---	.85	---	1,234	---
1912-13	20	---	57	---	1,140	---	1.09	---	1,243	---
1913-14	21	22	58	60	1,218	1,282	.97	.94	1,181	1,194
1914-15	20	22	61	59	1,220	1,266	.97	.93	1,183	1,168
1915-16	22	21	49	58	1,078	1,222	1.05	.99	1,132	1,195
1916-17	20	21	67	58	1,340	1,199	1.13	1.04	1,514	1,251
1917-18	23	21	68	61	1,564	1,284	2.59	1.34	4,051	1,812
1918-19	34	24	82	65	2,788	1,598	1.18	1.38	3,290	2,234
1919-20	20	24	53	64	1,060	1,566	1.85	1.56	1,961	2,390
1920-21	22	24	55	65	1,210	1,592	3.66	2.08	4,429	3,049
1921-22	23	24	63	64	1,449	1,614	1.48	2.15	2,145	3,175
1922-23	24	25	58	62	1,392	1,580	1.67	1.97	2,325	2,830
1923-24	23	22	64	59	1,472	1,317	1.64	2.06	2,414	2,655
1924-25	24	23	63	61	1,512	1,407	1.40	1.97	2,117	2,686
1925-26	29	25	57	61	1,653	1,496	1.71	1.58	2,827	2,366
1926-27	33	27	57	60	1,881	1,582	2.19	1.72	4,119	2,760
1927-28	36	29	53	59	1,908	1,685	1.94	1.78	3,702	3,036
1928-29	38	32	65	59	2,470	1,885	1.29	1.71	3,186	3,190
1929-30	29	33	56	58	1,624	1,907	1.47	1.72	2,387	3,244
1930-31	34	34	60	58	2,040	1,985	1.36	1.65	2,774	3,234
1931-32	48	37	75	62	3,600	2,328	.51	1.31	1,836	2,777
1932-33	40	38	51	61	2,040	2,355	.84	1.09	1,714	2,379
1933-34	38	38	54	59	2,052	2,271	.76	.99	1,560	2,054
1934-35	42	40	60	60	2,520	2,450	.53	.80	1,336	1,844
1935-36	39	41	65	61	2,535	2,549	.69	.67	1,749	1,639
1936-37	39	40	68	60	2,652	2,360	1.27	.82	3,368	1,945
1937-38	44	40	62	62	2,728	2,497	.65	.78	1,773	1,957
1938-39	43	41	64	64	2,752	2,637	.60	.75	1,651	1,975

¹Adapted from revised data furnished by R. F. Hale of the Agricultural Marketing Service.²Crop year is from August through the following July.³Acreage figures are total acres harvested.

Strawberries

Statistical data on strawberries are not available for years prior to 1918; thus the information is limited to the last 20 years of the 30-year period. During this time the strawberry acreage in Louisiana increased from an average of 7,022 acres for the 1918-23 period to 22,540 acres in 1928-33, then declined somewhat during the depression years, but increased to an average of 18,520 acres for the last five years of the 30-year period (Table 16).

The average yields per acre were relatively high during the earlier years, averaging 152 24-pint crates per acre for the 5-year period ending in 1923, but decreased sharply to 96 crates per acre in 1924-29 as the acreage increased. Since that time yields have increased to an average of about 130 crates per acre.

There have been wide variations in the prices received from year to year but, in general, the price per crate has been declining. The average price received for the 1918-23 period was \$2.95 per crate as compared to an average of \$1.80 for the period ending in 1939.

The total farm value of the strawberry crop averaged more than \$4,000,000 for the 1934-39 period. The Louisiana strawberry crop ranked fourth as a source of cash income, with only cotton, rice, and sugar cane producing a greater total cash income.

Tame and Wild Hay

The acreage of all hay in Louisiana has increased gradually throughout the 30-year period. Tame hay, usually produced on tillable cropland on an annual basis, rose from an average of 158,000 acres for the 1909-14 period to 286,000 acres for the 5-year period ending in 1939 (Table 17). Wild hay, usually a by-product from permanent pasture land, had a relatively constant acreage throughout the 30 years, averaging about 20,000 acres (Table 18).

Yields of both types have shown a slightly declining trend. Tame hay averaged 1.3 tons per acre in the 1909-14 period as compared to 1.1 tons in 1934-39, while wild hay averaged 1.2 tons per acre in the earlier period as compared to 1.0 ton for the most recent 5-year average.

Prices have varied widely from year to year, but the general trend has been downward. In the pre-war years, wild hay was more valuable than the so-called tame hay; the average price for wild hay in the 1914-19 period was \$15.40 per ton as compared to \$13.76 for tame hay. In the following 20 years, however, prices for tame hay declined less rapidly than wild hay prices, and thus the earlier relationship was reversed. For the 5-year period ending in 1939, tame hay was priced at \$9.94 per ton as compared to \$7.08 per ton for wild hay.

Most of the hay produced in Louisiana is used on the farms where produced, and cash income from hay represents less than 1 per cent of the total cash receipts.

TABLE 16. THE PRODUCTION AND PRICE OF STRAWBERRIES IN LOUISIANA, 1918-1938¹

CROP YEAR ²	ACREAGE ³		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		PRICE PER 24-PT. CRATE		FARM VALUE	
	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.
	<i>Acres</i>		<i>24-pt. crates</i>		<i>1000 24-pt. crates</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>1000 Dollars</i>	
1918-19	4,900	-----	124	-----	608	-----	2.88	-----	1,748	-----
1919-20	3,900	-----	174	-----	678	-----	3.12	-----	2,119	-----
1920-21	6,500	-----	140	-----	910	-----	3.35	-----	3,048	-----
1921-22	8,250	-----	170	-----	1,402	-----	3.25	-----	4,556	-----
1922-23	11,560	7,022	152	152	1,758	1,072	2.15	2.95	3,780	3,050
1923-24	14,350	8,912	108	150	1,550	1,260	3.00	2.98	4,650	3,631
1924-25	14,600	11,052	102	134	1,490	1,422	3.25	3.00	4,842	4,175
1925-26	10,340	11,820	84	124	868	1,414	3.00	2.93	2,604	4,086
1926-27	18,500	13,870	112	112	2,072	1,548	3.48	2.98	7,200	4,615
1927-28	21,100	15,778	66	94	1,392	1,474	2.75	3.10	3,828	4,625
1928-29	23,200	17,548	116	96	2,692	1,702	3.15	3.12	8,480	5,391
1929-30	24,000	19,428	104	96	2,496	1,904	2.35	2.94	5,866	5,596
1930-31	22,000	21,760	88	98	1,936	2,118	2.70	2.88	5,227	6,120
1931-32	20,500	22,160	180	110	3,690	2,442	2.20	2.63	8,118	6,304
1932-33	23,000	22,540	134	124	3,082	2,780	1.35	2.35	4,161	6,370
1933-34	18,800	21,660	136	128	2,556	2,752	1.45	2.01	3,706	5,416
1934-35	19,400	20,740	128	134	2,484	2,750	1.52	1.84	3,788	5,000
1935-36	18,800	20,100	82	132	1,542	2,670	1.88	1.68	2,891	4,533
1936-37	14,800	18,960	168	130	2,486	2,430	2.00	1.64	4,972	3,904
1937-38	17,600	17,880	164	136	2,886	2,390	1.68	1.70	4,834	4,038
1938-39	22,000	18,520	100	128	2,200	2,320	1.90	1.80	4,180	4,133

¹Adapted from revised data furnished by R. F. Hale of the Agricultural Marketing Service.²Crop year is from August through the following July.³Acres figures are total acres harvested.

TABLE 17. THE PRODUCTION AND PRICE OF TAME HAY IN LOUISIANA, 1909-1938¹

CROP YEAR ²	ACREAGE ³		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		PRICE PER TON		FARM VALUE	
	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Acres		Tons		1000 Tons		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1909-10	158	—	1.35	—	213	—	10.70	—	2,279	—
1910-11	165	—	1.40	—	231	—	11.50	—	2,656	—
1911-12	160	—	1.30	—	208	—	12.00	—	2,496	—
1912-13	150	—	1.20	—	180	—	12.70	—	2,286	—
1913-14	155	158	1.25	1.30	194	205	12.50	11.88	2,425	2,428
1914-15	155	157	1.40	1.31	217	206	12.00	12.14	2,604	2,493
1915-16	185	161	1.20	1.27	222	204	10.30	11.90	2,287	2,420
1916-17	180	165	1.30	1.27	234	209	11.00	11.70	2,574	2,435
1917-18	185	172	1.20	1.27	222	218	14.30	12.02	3,175	2,613
1918-19	185	178	1.15	1.25	213	222	21.20	13.76	4,516	3,031
1919-20	189	185	1.28	1.23	241	226	23.00	15.96	5,543	3,619
1920-21	186	185	1.26	1.24	235	229	16.00	17.10	3,760	3,714
1921-22	194	188	1.16	1.21	225	227	14.00	17.70	3,150	4,029
1922-23	207	192	1.18	1.21	244	232	13.30	17.50	3,245	4,043
1923-24	220	199	1.30	1.24	287	246	15.00	16.26	4,305	4,001
1924-25	199	201	.81	1.14	161	230	17.80	15.22	2,866	3,465
1925-26	180	200	.96	1.08	173	218	19.00	15.82	3,287	3,371
1926-27	173	196	1.11	1.07	192	211	14.50	15.92	2,784	3,297
1927-28	191	193	1.26	1.09	240	211	13.80	16.02	3,312	3,311
1928-29	185	186	1.38	1.10	256	204	14.40	15.90	3,686	3,187
1929-30	185	183	1.26	1.19	234	219	13.60	15.06	3,182	3,250
1930-31	207	188	1.08	1.22	223	229	13.50	13.96	3,010	3,195
1931-32	224	198	1.48	1.29	332	257	8.80	12.82	2,922	3,222
1932-33	258	212	1.18	1.28	304	270	6.80	11.42	2,067	2,973
1933-34	261	227	1.14	1.23	298	278	8.00	10.14	2,384	2,713
1934-35	307	251	1.05	1.19	322	296	10.30	9.48	3,317	2,740
1935-36	292	268	1.04	1.18	304	312	8.90	8.56	2,706	2,679
1936-37	269	277	1.21	1.12	325	311	10.70	8.94	3,478	2,790
1937-38	263	278	1.22	1.13	321	314	10.00	9.58	3,210	3,019
1938-39	299	286	1.11	1.13	333	321	9.80	9.94	3,263	3,195

¹Adapted from revised data furnished by R. F. Hale of the Agricultural Marketing Service.²Crop year is from August through the following July.³Acreage figures are total acres harvested.

TABLE 18. THE PRODUCTION AND PRICE OF WILD HAY IN LOUISIANA, 1912-1938¹

CROP YEAR ²	ACREAGE ³		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		PRICE PER TON		FARM VALUE	
	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Acres		Tons		1000 Tons		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1912-13	20	---	1.25	---	25	---	---	---	---	---
1913-14	21	---	1.25	---	26	---	---	---	---	---
1914-15	19	---	1.25	---	24	---	14.00	---	336	---
1915-16	19	---	1.15	---	22	---	9.00	---	198	---
1916-17	19	20	1.25	1.23	24	24	10.00	---	240	---
1917-18	16	19	1.10	1.20	18	23	14.00	---	252	---
1918-19	13	17	1.00	1.15	13	20	30.00	15.40	390	283
1919-20	14	16	1.40	1.18	20	19	22.00	17.00	440	304
1920-21	14	15	1.30	1.21	18	19	19.00	19.00	342	333
1921-22	16	15	1.30	1.22	21	18	10.00	19.00	210	327
1922-23	15	14	1.40	1.28	21	19	9.00	18.00	189	314
1923-24	15	15	1.55	1.39	23	21	12.00	14.40	276	291
1924-25	13	15	.80	1.27	10	19	14.70	12.94	147	233
1925-26	15	15	.70	1.15	10	17	14.00	11.94	140	192
1926-27	15	15	1.10	1.11	16	16	10.50	12.04	168	184
1927-28	15	15	1.00	1.03	15	15	10.20	12.28	153	177
1928-29	16	15	1.30	.98	21	14	9.90	11.86	208	163
1929-30	18	16	1.24	1.07	22	17	9.80	10.88	216	177
1930-31	20	17	.65	1.06	13	17	10.60	10.20	138	177
1931-32	22	18	1.15	1.07	25	19	6.00	9.30	150	173
1932-33	20	19	.75	1.02	15	19	5.70	8.40	86	160
1933-34	20	20	1.20	1.00	24	20	6.50	7.72	156	149
1934-35	21	21	.70	.89	15	18	7.00	7.16	105	127
1935-36	22	21	1.10	.98	24	21	7.40	6.52	178	135
1936-37	24	21	.65	.88	16	19	7.90	6.90	126	130
1937-38	25	22	1.25	.98	31	22	6.00	6.96	186	150
1938-39	18	22	1.30	1.00	23	22	7.10	7.08	163	152

¹Adapted from revised data furnished by R. F. Hale of the Agricultural Marketing Service.²Crop year is from August through the following July.³Acreage figures are total acres harvested.

TABLE 19. THE PRODUCTION AND PRICE OF OATS IN LOUISIANA, 1909-1938¹

CROP ² YEAR	ACREAGE ³		YIELD PER ACRE		PRODUCTION		PRICE PER BUSHEL		FARM VALUE	
	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.	crop year ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Acres		Bushels		1000 Bushels		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1909-10	30	---	17.0	---	510	---	.65	---	332	---
1910-11	35	---	21.0	---	735	---	.56	---	412	---
1911-12	36	---	16.0	---	576	---	.62	---	357	---
1912-13	30	---	19.0	---	570	---	.59	---	336	---
1913-14	36	33	20.0	18.6	720	622	.56	.60	403	368
1914-15	40	35	23.0	19.8	920	704	.62	.59	570	416
1915-16	60	40	21.0	19.8	1,260	809	.64	.61	806	494
1916-17	56	44	18.5	20.3	1,036	901	.61	.60	632	549
1917-18	52	49	19.0	20.3	988	985	.90	.67	889	660
1918-19	51	52	21.5	20.6	1,096	1,060	1.05	.76	1,151	810
1919-20	50	54	20.0	20.0	1,000	1,076	1.05	.85	1,050	906
1920-21	35	49	23.0	20.4	805	985	1.09	.94	877	920
1921-22	27	43	23.0	21.3	621	902	.62	.94	385	870
1922-23	24	37	23.5	22.2	564	817	.61	.88	344	761
1923-24	25	32	19.0	21.7	475	693	.66	.81	314	594
1924-25	17	26	19.0	21.5	323	558	.67	.73	216	427
1925-26	14	21	21.5	21.2	301	457	.71	.65	214	295
1926-27	12	18	28.0	22.2	336	400	.61	.65	205	259
1927-28	11	16	16.5	20.8	182	323	.64	.66	116	213
1928-29	15	14	26.0	22.2	390	306	.72	.67	281	206
1929-30	15	13	25.5	23.5	382	318	.68	.67	260	215
1930-31	14	13	24.0	24.0	336	325	.57	.64	192	211
1931-32	31	17	29.0	24.2	899	438	.37	.60	333	236
1932-33	25	20	16.0	24.1	400	481	.30	.53	120	237
1933-34	22	21	16.5	22.2	363	476	.45	.47	163	214
1934-35	32	25	24.0	21.9	768	553	.62	.46	476	257
1935-36	50	32	22.5	21.6	1,125	711	.49	.45	551	329
1936-37	40	34	28.0	21.4	1,120	755	.54	.48	605	383
1937-38	45	38	31.0	24.4	1,395	954	.48	.52	670	493
1938-39	50	43	27.0	26.5	1,350	1,152	.37	.50	500	560

¹Adapted from revised data furnished by R. F. Hale of the Agricultural Marketing Service.²Crop year is from August through the following July.³Acreage figures are total acres harvested.

Oats

The acreage of oats in Louisiana declined from 33,000 acres in the 1909-14 period to 13,000 acres for the 5-year period ending in 1930, then rapidly increased to an average of 43,000 acres for the 1934-39 period (Table 19). The oat acreage has increased more than 200 per cent during the last ten years.

The trend in yield per acre has been slightly upward throughout the 30-year period. The average yield for the 1909-14 period was 18.6 bushels per acre as compared to 26.5 for the 5-year period ending in 1939.

Prices received by farmers for oats have been more constant than for many other Louisiana commodities. The average price for the 1909-14 period was \$0.60 per bushel as compared to \$0.94 in 1916-21 and \$0.50 for the five years ending in 1939. Most of the oats produced in Louisiana are used for feed on the farms where produced.

NUMBER AND VALUE OF THE VARIOUS KINDS OF LIVESTOCK ON FARMS IN LOUISIANA, 1910-39

Data on the number, value per head, and total farm value of the different kinds of livestock as of January 1 of each year are published currently by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Similar information for past years is not readily available and in many cases is inaccurate as revisions of the the original data have been made, resulting from the recent improvements in statistical technique. Because of the unavailability of much of the data in condensed form and because of the recent revisions which have not been published for the State of Louisiana, tables are presented herewith showing the number, value per head, and total farm value of all cattle, milk cows, hogs, sheep, horses, mules, and chickens, from 1910 to 1939.

The data for each type of livestock include a 5-year average for all items. Thus the average for the preceding five years can be obtained without further calculations for any period, making it easier to determine significant trends which are not revealed by changes from any one year to the next.

All Cattle

The number of all cattle in Louisiana has been gradually increasing during the past 30 years, especially in the last 10 years of the period. For the 5-year period 1910-14 there were 772,000 cattle on farms as compared to 1,076,000 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39 (Table 20). In the last 10 years cattle numbers increased from 836,000 in 1930 to 1,098,000 in 1939.

The value per head has fluctuated widely, varying from \$17.54 for the 1910-14 period to \$30.70 for the 5-year period ending in 1921, then declining to a low point of \$15.48 in 1932-36, and increasing to \$18.80 per head for the most recent 5-year period. In general, there was a close relationship between trends in value per head and trends in numbers. After a period of high values, the number of cattle usually increased in the following years; after a period of low values the number of cattle decreased. In the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39, cattle numbers have been increasing in response to relatively high values per head, which are determined by the prices farmers receive.

The farm value of all cattle is determined by the number on hand and the average value per head. The farm value of all cattle in Louisiana was slightly more than \$13,000,000 for the 1910-14 period, increased to about \$29,000,000 for the five years ending in 1921, declined to \$16,000,000 in 1932-36, and increased to an average of \$20,000,000 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39.

Milk Cows

The number of milk cows on farms in Louisiana has been relatively steady throughout the 30-year period, with a slightly increasing trend in the last ten years (Table 21). For the 1910-14 period there were 245,000 milk cows on farms in comparison with 251,000 for the five years ending in 1930 and 306,000 for the

TABLE 20. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND VALUE OF ALL CATTLE ON FARMS IN LOUISIANA, JANUARY 1¹

YEAR	NUMBER		VALUE PER HEAD		FARM VALUE	
	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Head		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1910	748	-----	14.70	-----	11,022	-----
1911	755	-----	17.30	-----	13,054	-----
1912	765	-----	17.20	-----	13,143	-----
1913	780	-----	17.40	-----	13,610	-----
1914	810	772	21.10	17.54	17,068	13,579
1915	840	790	22.20	19.04	18,676	15,110
1916	885	816	22.30	20.04	19,756	16,451
1917	935	850	25.60	21.72	23,980	18,618
1918	980	890	30.10	24.26	29,535	21,803
1919	1,045	937	33.40	26.72	34,870	25,363
1920	950	959	36.50	29.58	34,675	28,563
1921	931	968	28.00	30.72	26,068	29,826
1922	912	964	20.30	29.66	18,514	28,732
1923	902	948	18.90	27.42	17,048	26,235
1924	884	916	19.10	24.56	16,884	22,638
1925	871	900	17.80	20.82	15,504	18,804
1926	836	881	19.20	19.06	16,051	16,800
1927	819	862	20.70	19.14	16,953	16,488
1928	810	844	23.70	20.10	19,197	16,918
1929	819	831	31.90	22.66	26,126	18,766
1930	836	824	30.70	25.24	25,665	20,798
1931	869	831	22.70	25.94	19,726	21,533
1932	920	851	18.20	25.44	16,744	21,492
1933	986	886	13.10	23.32	12,917	20,236
1934	1,070	936	13.30	19.60	14,216	17,854
1935	1,125	994	14.20	16.30	15,955	15,912
1936	1,035	1,027	18.60	15.48	19,237	15,814
1937	1,045	1,052	19.40	15.72	20,225	16,510
1938	1,076	1,070	20.10	17.12	21,622	18,251
1939 ²	1,098	1,076	21.70	18.80	23,827	20,173

¹Data from 1910 to 1935 from *Livestock on Farms, 1910 to 1935*, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Data from 1936 to 1939 from *Crops and Markets*, February, 1939.

²Preliminary.

most recent 5-year period, 1935-39.

Values per head for milk cows have fluctuated directly with values for all cattle, but at a much higher level. In 1910-14 the average value per head was \$29.26 in comparison with \$51.50 for the period ending in 1921 and \$30.20 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39. Changes in values per head seem to be more directly associated with variations in the numbers of all cattle rather than the numbers of milk cows. This is most probably due to the fact that the value of a cow for dairy purposes is to some extent determined by the value for beef.

The farm value of milk cows in Louisiana varied from about \$7,000,000 in 1910-14 to a high point of \$12,000,000 for the five years ending in 1921, and about \$9,000,000 for the most recent period, 1935-39.

TABLE 21. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND VALUE OF MILK COWS ON FARMS IN LOUISIANA, JANUARY 1¹

YEAR	NUMBER		VALUE PER HEAD		FARM VALUE	
	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Head		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1910	237	-----	24.30	-----	5,759	-----
1911	240	-----	29.50	-----	7,080	-----
1912	250	-----	29.50	-----	7,375	-----
1913	250	-----	29.00	-----	7,250	-----
1914	250	245	34.00	29.26	8,500	7,193
1915	250	248	36.00	31.60	9,000	7,841
1916	242	248	37.00	33.10	8,954	8,216
1917	240	246	42.00	35.60	10,080	8,757
1918	230	242	49.50	39.70	11,385	9,584
1919	220	236	58.00	44.50	12,760	10,436
1920	220	230	61.00	49.50	13,420	11,320
1921	225	227	47.00	51.50	10,575	11,644
1922	233	226	39.00	50.90	9,087	11,445
1923	242	228	35.00	48.00	8,470	10,862
1924	248	234	34.00	43.20	8,432	9,997
1925	253	240	34.00	37.80	8,602	9,033
1926	245	244	31.00	34.60	7,595	8,437
1927	250	248	33.00	33.40	8,250	8,270
1928	256	250	36.00	33.60	9,216	8,419
1929	253	251	49.00	36.60	12,397	9,212
1930	250	251	47.00	39.20	11,750	9,842
1931	257	253	36.00	40.20	9,252	10,173
1932	270	257	30.00	39.60	8,100	10,143
1933	280	262	21.00	36.60	5,880	9,476
1934	298	271	23.00	31.40	6,854	8,367
1935	310	283	24.00	26.80	7,440	7,505
1936	304	292	29.00	25.40	8,816	7,418
1937	298	298	32.00	25.80	9,536	7,705
1938	304	303	32.00	28.00	9,728	8,475
1939 ²	314	306	34.00	30.20	10,676	9,239

¹Data from 1910 to 1935 from *Livestock on Farms, 1910 to 1935*, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Data from 1936 to 1939 from *Crops and Markets*, February, 1939.

²Preliminary.

Hogs

Numbers of hogs in Louisiana declined gradually from 1910 to 1927, then increased slightly during the last ten years of the 30-year period. For the 1910-14 period hog numbers averaged 1,047,000 as compared to 521,000 for the five years ending in 1928 and 814,000 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39 (Table 22).

Values per head averaged \$6.50 in 1910-14, increased to \$12.90 for the period ending in 1921, then declined to \$5.31 in 1931-35, and increased to \$6.33 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39. Hog values in Louisiana during the past five years have been relatively steady at a point slightly below the 1910-14 level.

The value of hogs on farms in Louisiana varied from about \$7,000,000 in 1910-14 to a high point of \$12,000,000 for the 5-year period ending in 1921, and declined to about \$5,000,000 for the most recent period, 1935-39.

TABLE 22. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND VALUE OF HOGS ON FARMS IN LOUISIANA JANUARY 1¹

YEAR	NUMBER		VALUE PER HEAD		FARM VALUE	
	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.
	<i>1000 Head</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>1000 Dollars</i>	
1910	1,000	-----	5.50	-----	5,500	-----
1911	1,119	-----	6.20	-----	6,938	-----
1912	1,125	-----	5.80	-----	6,525	-----
1913	1,040	-----	7.00	-----	7,280	-----
1914	950	1,047	8.00	6.50	7,600	6,769
1915	935	1,034	7.70	6.94	7,200	7,109
1916	970	1,004	7.30	7.16	7,081	7,137
1917	1,000	957	9.20	7.84	9,200	7,672
1918	1,020	975	13.60	9.16	13,872	8,991
1919	966	978	15.20	10.60	14,683	10,407
1920	851	961	14.60	11.98	12,425	11,452
1921	749	917	11.90	12.90	8,913	11,819
1922	700	857	8.80	12.82	6,160	11,211
1923	650	783	8.00	11.70	5,200	9,476
1924	580	706	7.80	10.22	4,524	7,444
1925	528	641	8.60	9.02	4,541	5,868
1926	496	591	8.80	8.40	4,365	4,958
1927	472	545	10.10	8.66	4,767	4,679
1928	527	521	9.20	8.90	4,848	4,609
1929	586	522	9.70	9.28	5,684	4,841
1930	637	544	8.80	9.32	5,606	5,054
1931	605	565	7.30	9.02	4,416	5,064
1932	758	623	6.50	8.30	4,927	5,096
1933	796	676	4.10	7.28	3,264	4,779
1934	796	718	3.90	6.12	3,123	4,267
1935	777	746	4.85	5.31	3,758	3,898
1936	730	772	7.90	5.45	5,782	4,171
1937	818	783	6.70	5.49	5,481	4,282
1938	834	791	6.50	5.97	5,421	4,713
1939 ²	909	814	5.70	6.33	5,181	5,125

¹Data from 1910 to 1935 from *Livestock on Farms, 1910 to 1935*, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Data from 1936 to 1939 from *Crops and Markets*, February, 1939.

²Preliminary.

Sheep

Sheep numbers in Louisiana have been gradually increasing throughout the 30-year period. In the 1910-14 period there were 189,000 stock sheep in Louisiana as compared to 265,000 for the 5-year period ending in 1939 (Table 23).

Values per head averaged \$1.98 in 1910-14, increased to \$4.28 for the period ending in 1921, then declined to \$2.45 in 1931-35, and increased to \$3.00 per head for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39. Sheep values in Louisiana have been relatively constant during the past ten years at a point somewhat above the 1910-14 level.

The value of sheep on farms in Louisiana varied from \$374,000 in 1910-14 to a high point of \$968,000 for the 5-year period ending in 1921, and declined to \$795,000 for the most recent period, 1935-39.

TABLE 23. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND VALUE OF STOCK SHEEP ON FARMS IN LOUISIANA, JANUARY 1¹

YEAR	NUMBER		VALUE PER HEAD		FARM VALUE	
	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.
	<i>1000 Head</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>1000 Dollars</i>	
1910	185	-----	1.90	-----	352	-----
1911	186	-----	1.80	-----	335	-----
1912	187	-----	2.00	-----	374	-----
1913	190	-----	2.00	-----	380	-----
1914	195	189	2.20	1.98	429	374
1915	200	192	2.20	2.04	440	392
1916	210	196	2.30	2.14	483	421
1917	219	203	2.90	2.32	635	473
1918	225	210	4.10	2.74	922	582
1919	228	216	5.20	3.34	1,186	733
1920	230	222	5.40	3.98	1,242	894
1921	225	225	3.80	4.28	855	968
1922	225	227	2.80	4.26	630	967
1923	230	228	2.90	4.02	667	916
1924	235	229	3.10	3.60	728	824
1925	235	230	3.20	3.16	752	726
1926	235	232	3.00	3.00	705	696
1927	240	235	3.00	3.04	720	714
1928	240	237	3.00	3.06	720	725
1929	245	239	3.30	3.10	808	741
1930	250	242	3.40	3.14	850	761
1931	255	246	2.70	3.08	688	757
1932	260	250	2.70	3.02	702	754
1933	265	255	2.00	2.82	530	716
1934	270	260	2.20	2.60	594	673
1935	275	265	2.65	2.45	727	648
1936	248	264	3.20	2.55	788	668
1937	260	264	3.10	2.63	812	690
1938	268	264	3.05	2.84	822	749
1939 ²	276	265	3.00	3.00	828	795

¹Data from 1910 to 1935 from *Livestock on Farms, 1910 to 1935*, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Data from 1936 to 1939 from *Crops and Markets*, February, 1939.

²Preliminary.

Mules

The number of mules in Louisiana has been fairly constant for the past ten years, after increasing slightly during the earlier 20-year period. In the 1910-14 period, there were 134,000 mules on farms as compared to 185,000 for the 5-year period ending in 1929 and 201,000 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39 (Table 24).

Values per head have been increasing in the past five years, after being relatively low from 1925 to 1935. For the 1910-14 period, mules were valued at \$121 per head as compared to \$69 for the 5-year period ending in 1935 and \$103 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39.

The value of mules on farms in Louisiana varied from about \$16,000,000 in 1910-14 to a high point of \$26,000,000 for the period ending in 1922, then declined to \$14,000,000 in 1931-35, and increased to \$20,000,000 in 1935-39.

TABLE 24. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND VALUE OF MULES ON FARMS IN LOUISIANA, JANUARY 1¹

YEAR	NUMBER		VALUE PER HEAD		FARM VALUE	
	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Head		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1910	132	-----	116	-----	15,312	-----
1911	133	-----	119	-----	15,827	-----
1912	134	-----	116	-----	15,544	-----
1913	135	-----	127	-----	17,145	-----
1914	138	134	128	121	17,664	16,298
1915	140	136	125	123	17,500	16,736
1916	145	138	121	123	17,545	17,080
1917	165	145	125	125	20,625	18,096
1918	180	154	135	127	24,300	19,527
1919	185	163	145	130	26,825	21,359
1920	185	172	168	139	31,046	24,068
1921	187	180	143	143	26,731	25,905
1922	177	183	118	142	20,871	25,955
1923	176	182	113	137	19,856	25,066
1924	180	181	94	127	16,836	23,068
1925	180	180	90	112	16,200	20,099
1926	182	179	90	101	16,380	18,029
1927	186	181	79	93	14,694	16,793
1928	186	183	85	88	15,810	15,984
1929	192	185	89	87	17,088	16,034
1930	201	189	85	86	17,085	16,211
1931	205	194	74	82	15,170	15,969
1932	201	197	63	79	12,663	15,563
1933	197	199	56	73	11,032	14,608
1934	199	201	70	70	13,850	13,960
1935	199	200	84	69	16,618	13,867
1936	199	199	99	74	19,791	14,791
1937	201	199	110	84	22,132	16,685
1938	205	201	113	95	23,165	19,111
1939 ²	203	201	111	103	22,533*	20,848

¹Data from 1910 to 1935 from *Livestock on Farms, 1910 to 1935*, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Data from 1936 to 1939 from *Crops and Markets*, February, 1939.

²Preliminary.

Horses

While the number of mules in Louisiana increased during the 30-year period, horse numbers declined. In the 1910-14 period there were 173,000 horses on farms as compared to only 125,000 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39 (Table 25). This indicates that to some extent horses are being replaced by mules for use as workstock on Louisiana farms.

Horse values per head have followed the same general trend as mule values in Louisiana, but at a lower level. Horses were valued at \$83 per head in 1910-14 as compared to \$40 per head for the 5-year period ending in 1935 and \$58 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39.

The value of horses on farms in Louisiana varied from about \$14,000,000 in 1910-14 to a high point of \$18,000,000 for the 5-year period ending in 1921 and \$7,000,000 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39.

TABLE 25. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND VALUE OF HORSES ON FARMS IN LOUISIANA, JANUARY 1¹

YEAR	NUMBER		VALUE PER HEAD		FARM VALUE	
	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.	an- nual ave.	five- year ave.
	1000 Head		Dollars		1000 Dollars	
1910	178	----	79	----	14,062	-----
1911	175	----	83	----	14,525	-----
1912	170	----	79	----	13,430	-----
1913	170	----	87	----	14,790	-----
1914	171	173	85	83	14,535	14,268
1915	175	172	83	83	14,525	14,361
1916	180	173	82	83	14,760	14,408
1917	195	178	86	85	16,770	15,076
1918	198	184	93	86	18,414	15,801
1919	195	189	97	88	18,915	16,677
1920	182	190	108	93	19,690	17,710
1921	174	189	85	94	14,867	17,731
1922	157	181	78	92	12,244	16,826
1923	150	172	72	88	10,742	15,292
1924	146	162	67	82	9,782	13,465
1925	143	154	62	73	8,866	11,300
1926	139	147	55	67	7,645	9,856
1927	135	143	49	61	6,615	8,730
1928	132	139	52	57	6,864	7,954
1929	130	136	53	54	6,890	7,376
1930	128	133	52	52	6,656	6,934
1931	126	130	46	50	5,796	6,564
1932	124	128	38	48	4,712	6,184
1933	123	126	32	44	3,936	5,598
1934	122	125	40	42	4,848	5,190
1935	122	123	45	40	5,515	4,961
1936	122	123	56	42	6,843	5,171
1937	123	122	65	48	7,951	5,819
1938	128	123	64	54	8,205	6,672
1939 ²	129	125	60	58	7,740	7,251

¹Data from 1910 to 1935 from *Livestock on Farms, 1910 to 1935*, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Data from 1936 to 1939 from *Crops and Markets*, February, 1939.

²Preliminary.

Chickens

Data on chickens are not available for the years prior to 1924. For the 16-year period 1924-39, however, numbers of chickens on farms in Louisiana have been relatively constant, averaging about 5,000,000 head (Table 26). Chicken numbers increased from 4,500,000 for the 1924-28 period to 5,000,000 for the five years ending in 1931 and have held around the 5,000,000 mark during the last ten years.

Values averaged 75 cents per head for the 1924-28 period, increased to 79 cents for the 5-year period ending in 1930, then decreased to 47 cents per head in 1933-37, and increased to 55 cents for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39.

The value of chickens on farms in Louisiana varied from \$3,444,000 in 1924-28 to a high point of \$3,937,000 for the five years ending in 1930, and decreased to \$2,660,000 for the most recent 5-year period, 1935-39. The changes in the farm value of chickens on farms have been due mostly to fluctuations in the value per head, as numbers on farms have been relatively constant.

TABLE 26. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND VALUE OF CHICKENS ON FARMS IN LOUISIANA, JANUARY 1¹

YEAR	NUMBER		VALUE PER HEAD		FARM VALUE	
	an-nual ave.	five- year ave.	an-nual ave.	five- year ave.	an-nual ave.	five- year ave.
	<i>1000 Head</i>		<i>Cents</i>		<i>1000 Dollars</i>	
1924	4,370	-----	76	---	3,321	-----
1925	4,231	-----	67	---	2,835	-----
1926	4,400	-----	77	---	3,388	-----
1927	5,023	-----	76	---	3,817	-----
1928	5,009	4,607	77	75	3,857	3,444
1929	4,862	4,705	81	76	3,938	3,567
1930	5,510	4,961	85	79	4,684	3,937
1931	5,170	5,115	63	76	3,257	3,911
1932	4,872	5,085	57	73	2,777	3,703
1933	4,594	5,002	38	65	1,746	3,280
1934	4,608	4,951	40	57	1,843	2,861
1935	4,461	4,741	48	49	2,141	2,353
1936	4,586	4,624	56	48	2,568	2,215
1937	5,073	4,664	55	47	2,790	2,218
1938	4,689	4,683	58	51	2,720	2,412
1939	5,139	4,790	60	55	3,083	2,660

¹Data from *Farm Production and Disposition — Chickens and Eggs*, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, June, 1939.